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Conservation Commission Minutes 07/23/2009

Arlington Conservation Commission
Minutes
July 23, 2009

Mr. Stevens called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m. in the second floor conference room of the Town Hall Annex. Present were Nathaniel Stevens, David White, Charles Tirone, Ezra Benjamin, Ellen Reed, and Catherine Garnett of the Commission. Brian Thomas, associate member, Cori Beckwith and William O'Rourke of the Commission were not in attendance. Also present were Peter Kostorivos and Maria Kostorivos of 1377-1381 Mass Ave, Daniel White of ATC and Brad Barber.

7:45 pm - Commission Business

Reed/White motioned to approve the 7/09 **minutes** with edits; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Tirone reported that residents wanted to remove vegetation along Spy Pond at **Kelwyn Manor Park**. A general consensus was reached that any vegetation removal would require Commission approval of either a RDA or a NOI.

Mr. White reported on bank erosion at **Spy Pond Condos**. Spy Pond Condos will come before the Commission with a plan to stabilize the bank which may include a wetland area planting along the near shore..

Mr. White reported that Upland Meadows Restoration Project Plan for **Great Meadows** is open for comment.

Town Day is Sept 26th. Mr. O'Rourke will lower the Commission sign.

Walking Book assignments were allocated to Commission members. Ms. Reed will distribute the list of assignments and an electronic copy of the book. The goal is to have the book published by Earth Day 2010.

Mr. White reported on the status of the **Cookes Hollow** project. An initial meeting has been held with the consultant Waterfield Design Group which is now collecting a variety of information about the site and Mill Brook. A second meeting with the consultant is planned for early August.

Ms. Garnett reported on **waterline** work being done at Washington St. and Mohawk Rd. The work staging area appears to have impacted a vegetated area. The Commission will follow up with the Town.

The **Arlington Reservoir** is overgrown with a variety of invasive aquatic plants. Aquatic Control Technologies has surveyed the site and made recommendations for management. Unfortunately the Town does not have funds for implementing the control plan in part because of the amounts spent on control at Spy Pond. Recent floods have washed some of the weeds into Colonial Village. This also means that these weeds have been washed down Mill Brook and into Meadowbrook Park and the Lower Mystic Lake.

It has been reported that weeds from the Arlington Reservoir have infiltrated Colonial Village.

Mr. White and Mr. Tirone reported that Craig's Landscaping on **Bow Street** has added more parking and pavement than expected and have also removed vegetation. The Commission will write an enforcement letter.

8:30pm – **Notice of Intent** – 1389 Massachusetts Ave., UST removal

Mr. Daniel White of ATC presented a NOI to remove a 1,000 gallon underground storage tank (UST) at the MBTA bus turnaround near Mill Brook. The UST was historically used for heating oil and is no longer in use. ATC will comply with the MCP and all other MA DEP regulations for UST removal.

Peter Kostorivos and Maria Kostorivos expressed their concern about possible contamination emanating from the MBTA property.

Mr. Benjamin and Mr. Stevens expressed concerns regarding work staging areas and sampling frequency.

The following conditions were proposed for the NOI:

- 1) The excavated soil stockpile must be staged outside the 100 ft buffer zone.
- 2) All equipment must be kept as far away from Mill Brook as possible, preferably outside of the 100 ft buffer zone.
- 3) The 100 ft buffer zone must be marked on the pavement.

Reed/White motioned to close the hearing; motion passed unanimously. Benjamin\Reed motioned to approve the NOI with conditions noted above; motion passed unanimously.

8:50pm – **Working Session** – Kelwyn Manor Park

Mr. Barber appeared before the Commission to further discuss vegetation removal at Kelwyn Manor Park. The merits and methods of the removal were discussed. It was determined that, at a minimum, a Request for Determination of Applicability was required to perform any work at the site.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Ezra Benjamin
Member